

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for arranging at least two bands around one or more packets comprising:

supply reels having a supply roll for a band of the strap type and a supply roll for a band of the film type;

a band of the strap type in a first supply reel of the supply reels;

a band of the film type in a second supply reel of the supply reels;

~~a frame in a lying~~ conveyor belt supported by ~~[[the]]~~ a frame for moving the one or more packets forward;

band clamping and guiding means which move transversely of the conveyor belt away from and toward each other and which are connected to associated supply reels for the at least two bands, the band clamping and guiding means further ~~[[are]]~~ being arranged for applying simultaneously the band of the strap type and the band of the film type one above the other around the one or more packets such that each band can be sought, fixedly clamped, welded together and separated; and

welding means for welding together a band of the at least two bands which have been moved toward each other; and

wherein the at least two bands comprise a band of the strap type and a band of the film type, wherein the band clamping and guiding means and the welding means include a first group of band clamping and guiding means having a first pair of welding and clamping jaws arranged for the band of the strap type and a second group of band clamping and guiding means having a second pair of welding and clamping jaws arranged for the band of the film type, wherein the first group is arranged above the second group.

2. (Canceled)

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3. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a second band of the at least two bands is wider than a first band of the at least two bands.

4. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each welding and clamping jaw of the first pair of welding and clamping jaws has a clamping surface which runs transversely relative to a direction of movement and which co-acts with a counter-surface of an intermediate body carried by one of the first pair of welding and clamping jaws, and wherein at least one of the clamping surface and counter-surface is provided with tooth-like protrusions lying in a direction opposite to a pulling direction.

5. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each welding and clamping jaw of the second pair of welding and clamping jaws has a guide surface which runs transversely relative to the direction of movement and which co-acts in each case with a motor-driven supply roll.

6. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one band of the at least two bands is provided with a label.

7. (Withdrawn) Method for arranging at least two bands one above the other around one or more packets, wherein each band, which is formed by fastening together at their outer ends two bands unrolled in each case from a supply roll, is trained in a U-shape round the or each packet, whereupon each pair of band portions extending around the or each packet in a U-shape are pressed toward each other along the object, adhered to each other and severed such that a band again extends between each pair of supply rolls, characterized in that the type of the at least two bands is chosen according to the height on the one or more packets, and that for each band each of the two band portions pressed toward each other is fixedly clamped, moved toward each other, welded together and separated.

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8. (Withdrawn) Method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that each band of the bands to be arranged one above the other is fixedly clamped, welded together and separated simultaneously and in one movement.

9. (Withdrawn) Method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that each band of the bands to be arranged one above the other is successively sought, fixedly clamped, welded together and separated.